

vast undeveloped resources of Canada, necessary to give us a status on the northern half of this continent, and to give us an impetus in all that pertains to national prosperity. Besides the numbers we have received, it is pleasant to know that the quality of the immigration is steadily improving. In fact, I think it is as high to-day as we could desire. Men and women of good physique come to our shores. People abundantly supplied, too, with the elements of prosperity. It is estimated, after a careful inquiry I believe by the United States authorities as well as by our own, that the 70,000 immigrants from the United States last year brought each of them \$1,000 in cash, representing seventy millions in money. Assuming that the others brought a smaller amount, say two hundred and fifty to five hundred dollars each, we have got through immigration channels into this country one hundred million dollars during the last twelve months. The estimate may be high, but it is not made without good basis. This, added to the productive industry of the immigrants, must be a very material contribution to the wealth of Canada. Another evidence of its value is this, that the greater number of those immigrants went to the west, and that the west is unusually prosperous largely because of the quality of that immigration. When we find that the western provinces produced last year between one hundred and one hundred and twenty million bushels of wheat, one begins to inquire how it was done. It was done by those settlers, some from the older provinces, but many from the United States and from the United Kingdom. If you add to the one hundred million dollars they brought into the country the one hundred million bushels of wheat they produced, as well as the value of other crops raised by them, you have a contribution in one year from that source of probably \$200,000,000 to the wealth of Canada. At that rate, one can simply by process of multiplication ascertain, if the process goes on at the same rate, how prosperous and wealthy the west must become, and as the west becomes prosperous, so will the whole of Canada prosper. It is to-day the great camping ground of some of our most enterprising young men, the great

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Middlesex).

market for the manufacturing industries of the older provinces, the great loaning ground for our large corporations and banking institutions, and we can rejoice with His Excellency in the character of the immigration, its extent and the results which these immigrants have produced.

Another evidence of prosperity is the great increase in trade and commerce. In 1889 our whole trade was only \$321,661,000. I remember when our trade was under the two hundred million mark. Last year our trade was \$571,268,000, an increase of 100 per cent. That growth has been brought about partly through the enterprise of our own people, partly because of the acquisition of immense assistance in the shape of money from the mother country, and partly because there is a spirit of buoyancy and optimism prevailing in Canada. That that spirit will continue, no one will doubt. There is nothing to stop the impulse which our business has received, except the indifference of our own people, and that indifference is something not to be reckoned with at this stage of our development. His Excellency refers to the facility with which we overcame the industrial depression of a few years ago. That must be very gratifying to every hon. member of this House. While in the United States banks have failed and large commercial enterprises have become paralysed and large industries have had to dismiss thousands of their workmen, in Canada there was comparatively little distress, and although for a while our banking institutions restrained their loans and some of our larger industrial establishments went on short time, still the depression was of very small moment. Whatever depression existed three years ago has been entirely removed, and the labour market has not been overcrowded, wages have increased and there is prosperity and comfort among our labouring classes. The fact that we have fewer strikes than we had a few years ago is in itself a proof of prosperity and contentment, and without contentment there can be no real progress. The growth of trade is not confined to one department. For instance, the products of the mine have increased from \$13,000,000 to \$37,000,000, of fisheries from \$9,000,000 to \$13,000,000, of the forest from \$28,000,000 to \$39,000,000,